unregistered agencies is not maintained.

(b) and (c) The agencies registered with Regional Passport Offices are not empowered to employ prospective Indian labour abroad. However, there are 1258 Recruiting Agencies registered with Ministry of Labour who are authorised to recruit Indian labour for overseas employment.

हिन्दी भाषा का प्रसार

1732. **श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव :** क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि "क" और "ख" क्षेत्रों में राजभाषा अधिनियम की पूर्णत: अवहेलना करते हुए रोमान लिपि के कम्प्यूटरों, टेलेक्स मशीनों और टेली-प्रिंटरों जैसे दर्जनों आधुनिक यंत्रों के आगमन और अबाधित प्रयोग के फलस्वरूप हिन्दी के प्रसार का कार्य वर्षों पीछे पड़ गया है और जहां भी टेलेक्स मशीनें लगाई गई हैं वहां से एक भी तार हिन्दी में नहीं भेजा गया है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि "क" क्षेत्रों में अंग्रेजी के टंकण यंत्रों आदि की तुलना में देवनागरी के टंकण यंत्रों, टंककों और आशुलिपिकों की संख्या नहीं के बराबर है जबकि उनकी संख्या 50 : 50 होनी चाहिए थी ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं और हिन्दी भाषा के प्रसार के लिए क्या नए कदम उठाये गये हैं ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में कृषि और सहकारिता विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री श्याम लाल यादव) : (क) जी नहीं । कम्प्यूटरों, टैलेक्स मशीनों, टैलीप्रिन्टरों आदि जैसे रोमन इलैक्ट्रानिक उपकरणों के इस्तेमाल से राजभाषा नीति को विभिन्न अपेक्षाओं के अनुपालन में रुकावट नहीं आती है । जैसे, यह मंत्रालय अपने सरकारी काम-काज में द्विभाषी इलैक्ट्रानिक संयंत्रों का इस्तेमाल करने की जरूरत के बारे में पूरी तरह से सचेत है । इस मंत्रालय में उपलब्ध 13 इलैक्ट्रानिक संयंत्रों में से दो वर्ड प्रोसेसर द्विभाषी अर्थात् अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में हैं । जब कभी आवश्यक समझा जाता है तार हिन्दी में भेजे जाते हैं ।

(ख) और (ग) "क" क्षेत्र में स्थित कार्यालयों में देवनागरी टाइपराइटरों, हिन्दी टाइपिस्टों और हिन्दी आशुलिपिकों की संख्या बढ़ाने के लिए सभी प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं । राजभाषा अधिनियम के उपबन्धों, उसके अन्तर्गत बनाये गए नियमों तथा राजभाषा विभाग द्वारा समय-समय पर जारी किए गए विभिन्न प्रशासनिक अनुदेशों का अनुपालन करके मंत्रालय और उसके सम्बद्ध और अधीनस्थ कार्यालयों स्वशासी निकायों, सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के उपक्रमों आदि में हिन्दी के प्रयोग को लोकप्रिय बनाने के लिए भी उपाय किये जा रहे हैं ।

News broadcast by A.I.R., Madras regarding Cease Fire in Sri Lanka

1733. SHRI GOPALSAMY:
SHRI T. R. BALU:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a news bulletin was broadcast by A.I.R., Madras on 18th January 1988 to the effect that an appeal was made by the then Tamil Nadu Chief Minister to the Prime Minister of India to declare a cease fire in the I.P.K.F. operations in Sri Lanka for the Christmas; and

(b) whethere it is also a fact that a news bulletin was broadcast on the same day that the Tamil Nadu Government had made a denial of such a move?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L.

BHAGAT): (a) and (b) No, Sir. AIR, Madras did not broadcast any such news item on 18th January, 1980. However AIR, Tiruchi in its Tamil news bulletin at 1410 hours on 18th December, 1987 carried the denial issued by the Tamil Nadu State Government regarding the appeal reported to have been made by the then Chief Minister in the Press to declare ceasefire in the IPKF operations in Sri Lanka for Christmas.

New Radial rail corridor for the NCR

1734. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for a new Radial Rail Corridor for the NCR;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what are the names of the major cities which are to be benefited by this proposal;

(d) what funds have been allocated for this purpose; and

(e) by when the scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) No new Radial Rail Corridor has been proposed in the Draft Regional Plan-2001 National Capital Region, while four new expressways have been proposed.

(b) and (c) The names and number of cities likely to be covered under the proposed expressways on new alignments are as follows:—

Delhi-Ghaziabad- Meerut - Linking Ghaziabad, Modinagar and Meerut towns.

(d) and (e) The proposal in question is a part of the Draft Regional Plan approved by the NCR Planning Board for inviting objections and suggestions. The Draft Plan is in process of being finalised in the light of objections and suggestions received. Requirement of funds would be worked out after the finalisation of the Regional Plan. A time bound programme can be finalised only after the projects have been sanctioned and funds allocated.

Villages connected by Roads

1735. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of villages in the country yet to be connected by roads;

(b) the number of villages connected by roads during the year 1987 as against the target, if any, and how does it compare with the villages connected by roads during the years 1985 and 1986; and

(c) what are the existing criteria for rural roads development and whether with a view to promote balanced regional development, Government propose to bring about suitable changes in the criteria and if so, what steps have been taken by Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) As on 1-4-87, 60.28 per cent of total villages in the country were yet to be connected by all weather roads.

(b) As per the national norms all the villages with population over 1500 and 50 per cent of the villages with population between 1000—1500 are to be connected by all-weather roads by 1990 under the MNP. The target and achievement of villages belonging to these categories during